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16 February 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1. This memorandum is for information. It concerns the matter of your remarks to the President re the 25 January and its possible impact upon the current estimate of Soviet ICBM strength.

2. You have already noted our memorandum "Likelihood of a Soviet ICBM Buildup Towards a First Strike Capability" of 8 February which I return herewith. I call your attention specifically to paragraph 12 on pages 10 and 11 which contains our current evaluation of the report in question.

3. We are, as you know, beginning work on the new estimate which will deal with Soviet ICBM strength. We will naturally review all evidence on the subject. I hope that completion will not be necessary before certain collection activities now in train have enlarged our stock of hard information. 1

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

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